



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 3, 2009

CONTACT: Karie Reuther
(951) 304-9283

SUPPORT FOR LIBERTY QUARRY GROWS

Several high-profile local civic and business organizations endorse Liberty Quarry, touting its regional economic and environmental benefits

TEMECULA – A growing number of influential civic organizations, including the Murrieta-Temecula Group, the Inland Empire Economic Partnership and the Monday Morning Group have endorsed Liberty Quarry, project officials announced Wednesday.

The endorsements come as the project makes its way through the environmental review process and are further affirmation that Liberty Quarry would be a boon to the region. The environmental report concluded that the region would be better off with the quarry than without it, and the region's public officials, business leaders and involved citizens clearly agree.

The organizations represent many sectors of the local community and are dedicated to improving the quality of life for all residents. The Greater Riverside, Lake Elsinore and Wildomar Chambers of Commerce also have recently endorsed the project, recognizing the environmental and economic benefits associated with it.

The project would eliminate more than 1,000 truck trips daily from Interstate 15 in Riverside County, and the sales tax revenue generated would reach \$300 million.

"It's good to see that the region's top civic leaders recognize the tremendous value of Liberty Quarry and want to improve life for everyone here," said Gary W. Johnson, aggregate resource development manager for Granite Construction Co. "After reviewing Riverside County's extensive environmental report, it is clear the region will be better off with the quarry than we would be without it."

More than 2,400 government, business and civic leaders belong to these groups, demonstrating the depth and breadth of the community support for Liberty Quarry.

In its letter of endorsement, the Murrieta-Temecula Group noted the many traffic and transportation benefits that would result from having a local source of rock and gravel.

"We support the Liberty Quarry project not only because of the huge economic boost it will provide the region, but because studies have found traffic and air quality will improve thanks to Liberty Quarry," said Greg Morrison, president of the Murrieta-Temecula Group. "We'll be getting trucks off the road and providing a local source of construction materials for our schools, roads and other development."

more

The Liberty Quarry project calls for 270 million tons of sand and gravel known as aggregate to be mined over 75 years in an undeveloped, remote area off Interstate 15. The construction-grade aggregate is used for roads, homes and numerous other infrastructure needs. Asphalt and concrete would be made on the site near the Riverside County-San Diego County line, providing nearly 100 jobs averaging \$100,000 in salary and benefits and generating \$41 million in local property tax fees.

The environmental report contains an examination of twenty-five alternatives to the proposed project, including a study of what will happen to the region's environment if Liberty Quarry is not built and trucks continue to traverse the busy freeways in pursuit of aggregate in remote areas. The analysis found that not building Liberty Quarry would likely lead to increased air emissions and traffic in the region.

A full copy of the DEIR is available on Riverside County's Planning Department home page and can also be found at www.LibertyQuarryFacts.com.

###